

Appl. No. 10/720,652
Response dated: March 1, 2006
Reply to Office action of December 1, 2005

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action dated December 1, 2005, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration based on the above claim amendments and the following remarks. Applicants respectfully submit that the claims as presented are in condition for allowance.

Claims 1 and 3-26 are pending in the present Application. Claims 1 and 12 are amended, Claims 4, 5, 7-11, 15, 16 and 18-26 were previously withdrawn, leaving Claims 1, 3, 6, 12-14 and 17 for consideration upon entry of the present amendments and following remarks.

Support for the claim amendments can at least be found in the specification, the figures, and the claims as originally filed.

No new matter has been introduced by these amendments. Reconsideration and allowance of the claims are respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Number 5,712,493 to Mori et al. (hereinafter "Mori"). Applicants respectfully disagree. Claim 1 has been amended to particularly point out and clearly define that four adjacent electrode terminals of the present invention form a rectangle, which Mori does not.

"A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." *Verdegaal Bros. V. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987).

Amended Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, "electrode terminals linearly aligned in a plurality of columns along a first direction parallel to an edge line of a semiconductor substrate and linearly aligned in a plurality of rows along a second direction perpendicular to the first direction; and . . . wherein distances between adjacent two electrode terminals aligned in the second direction from respective adjacent columns are uniform."

Mori discloses arranging adjacent terminals from adjacent columns in a zig-zag pattern with reference to FIG 3 upon which the Examiner relies. At best, four adjacent electrode terminals of Mori form a parallelogram all of whose angles are not right angles, but does not

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form a rectangle (e.g., a parallelogram all of whose angles are right angles). Further, it is noted that the second direction of the plurality of rows of electrode terminals is not perpendicular to the first direction of the plurality of columns. Whereas the limitations of amended claims 1 and 12 define positions of four adjacent electrode terminals forming a rectangle. Mori does not disclose "electrode terminals linearly aligned in a plurality of columns along a first direction parallel to an edge line of a semiconductor substrate and linearly aligned in a plurality of rows along a second direction perpendicular to the first direction; and . . . wherein distances between adjacent two electrode terminals aligned in the second direction from respective adjacent columns are uniform", as in amended claim 1 and similarly claimed in amended claim 12. Thus, claims 1 and 12, including claims depending therefrom, i.e., claims 3, 6, 13, 14 and 17, define over Mori.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claim 1 under § 102(b) be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 6, 12-14 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Mori as applied to Claim 1 above. Applicants respectfully disagree.

For an obviousness rejection to be proper, the Examiner must meet the burden of establishing that all elements of the invention are disclosed in the prior art and that the prior art relied upon, coupled with knowledge generally available in the art at the time of the invention, must contain some suggestion or incentive that would have motivated the skilled artisan to modify a reference or combined references. *In re Fine*, 5 U.S.P.Q.2d 1596, 1598 (Fed. Cir. 1988); *In Re Wilson*, 165 U.S.P.Q. 494, 496 (C.C.P.A. 1970); *Amgen v. Chugai Pharmaceuticals Co.*, 927 U.S.P.Q.2d, 1016, 1023 (Fed. Cir. 1996).

As discussed above, Mori does not disclose at least "electrode terminals linearly aligned in a plurality of columns along a first direction parallel to an edge line of a semiconductor substrate and linearly aligned in a plurality of rows along a second direction perpendicular to the first direction; and . . . wherein distances between adjacent two electrode terminals aligned in the second direction from respective adjacent columns are uniform" with respect to amended

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Claim 1. This same limitation is also recited in amended Claim 12. Thus, Mori, does not disclose *all of the limitations* of amended Claim 12. Accordingly, *prima facie* obviousness does not exist regarding amended Claim 12 with respect to Mori.

Additionally, Mori fails to teach or suggest all of the limitations of amended Claim 12, clearly, one of ordinary skill at the time of Applicants' invention would not have a *motivation to modify*, Mori nor a reasonable likelihood of success in forming the claimed invention by modifying Mori. Thus, here again, *prima facie* obviousness does not exist. *Id.*

Therefore, the requirements of *prime facie* obviousness do not exist regarding amended Claim 12 with respect to Mori. Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 12 is not further rejected or objected and is thus allowable. Claims 13, 14 and 17 depend from Claim 12 and are correspondingly allowable as depending upon allowable Claim 12. Claim 6 depends from allowable Claim 1 and is correspondingly allowable. Reconsideration and allowance of Claims 6, 12-14 and 17 is respectfully requested.

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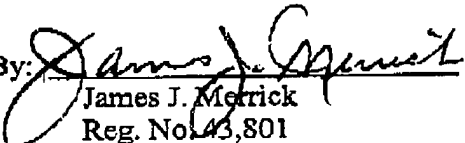
Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the instant application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this application be allowed and a Notice of Allowance issued. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference with Applicants' attorneys would be advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Examiner is cordially requested to telephone the undersigned.

In the event the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks deems additional fees to be due in connection with this application, Applicants' attorney hereby authorizes that such fee be charged to Deposit Account No. 06-1130.

Respectfully submitted,

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